

CLAIBORNE PELL has devoted much of his life in service to his Nation—4 years in the Coast Guard in World War II; 23 years in the Coast Guard Reserve; 7 years as a foreign service officer in Europe following World War II; all in addition to his remarkable 36 years of service to Rhode Island and this Nation as a U.S. Senator. In these historic 36 years, which have included some of our Nation's greatest and most contentious challenges, CLAIBORNE PELL has graced these Halls and the debates and legislative struggles therein, with reasoned insight, deft statesmanship, and calming counsel. In this body when even Will Rogers might, from time to time, have discovered the exception, CLAIBORNE PELL served with dignity, garnering the respect and affection of us all. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his example, not only of service to his Nation, but for his dignity and demeanor in the conduct of that service. This body and this Nation will miss him. We wish him and his charming wife, Nuala, the very best.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR J. BENNETT JOHNSTON

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the South's great men and one of the Nation's great legislators, Senator J. BENNETT JOHNSTON. Back in January 1995, when Senator JOHNSTON announced he would not seek a fourth term in the U.S. Senate, I thought then that we were about to lose a master of the legislative process and a true gentleman.

Whether working on the Naiton's energy policy or working to address the nagging problem of nuclear waste storage, you could count on Senator JOHNSTON, a master negotiator, to solve all but the most contentious problems before they reached the public eye. You could bet your boots that BENNETT JOHNSTON would not take an issue to the floor until he had those problems solved or knew the issue so well that no Senator could challenge him on the facts. As my colleagues know, he knows more than all of us combined about the intricacies and complex details of every energy issue, even the most complex and technical.

As chairman or ranking member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator JOHNSTON has placed his stamp on Louisiana and the Nation. I remember his dogged determination in passing the National Energy Security Act, a major revamping of the Nation's energy policy. Time and time again, he defeated attempts to kill the legislation and shepherded the bill into law. I also remember his work on an issue which is of great importance to my State—that of nuclear waste disposal. BENNETT JOHNSTON has carried this program almost single handedly, and, although we still have a ways to travel before putting this problem to bed,

without Senator JOHNSTON's work, we would be light years away from a solution. For all this, the people of Louisiana and the Nation are grateful.

I think the thing which the Senate will miss most is Senator JOHNSTON's ability to solve the most contentious problems in a congenial manner. In that sense, he reflects the best of the South—that of being a gentleman. No matter how heated the debate or controversial the issue, Senator JOHNSTON had a smile on his face and treated his opponent with respect. In today's political climate, it is this attitude which we will miss most.

As I mentioned earlier, Senator JOHNSTON amassed a long list of accomplishments during his career in the Senate. A career which began 24 years ago, and, if he had chosen to pursue reelection, could have continued indefinitely.

When Senator JOHNSTON announced to the Senate that he was leaving, he quoted the great Senator Russell M. Long of Louisiana who said, "It is important to retire as a champ, and to leave the stage when the crowd still likes your singing."

Mr. President, the Senate still likes Senator JOHNSTON's singing, and I hate to see him exit the stage. As Senator JOHNSTON leaves, I congratulate him for all his successes and wish him and his charming wife Mary the best. We will miss them.

TRIBUTE TO MARK HATFIELD

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I am sad when thinking of the Senate's impending loss of so many Members, especially of Senator MARK HATFIELD. Senator HATFIELD and I have been friends since 1958, when we both were young Governors of our respective States. MARK HATFIELD is smart, tough, and independent and an unfailing gentleman. Although we do not agree on every issue, I know that when MARK HATFIELD votes he votes with his conscience. A man of conviction is a man of quality and as one, Senator MARK HATFIELD transcends all partnership.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to work with Senator HATFIELD. Although we are from opposite sides of the aisle and the country, we have many shared interests, including Coastal Zone Management and NOAA, that agency so essential to the well-being of Oregon, South Carolina, and other coastal States. However, Senator HATFIELD'S attention extends beyond the general populace to those who are most vulnerable and often lacking a strong voice. Time and again, MARK HATFIELD has put himself on the line in the fight for economic and social justice, often at political risk. He is willing to take a stand on the hard issues. One program to benefit under his watch is the Legal Services Corporation, an organization which provides legal counsel to the indigent.

Oregon and the Nation is losing a valuable public servant and statesman

in Senator MARK HATFIELD. He and his lovely wife, Antoinette, will be missed by all. We wish them the very best as they return to the State they love so well.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING SENATORS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I want to take a few movements to salute all of our colleagues who are retiring from the U.S. Senate. These are individuals of uncommon character and devoted service—individuals who have strengthened their Nation and enriched each of us who has had the opportunity of serving with them.

We all know who these 13 Senators are. In retiring, they will undoubtedly affect the composition and character of this important legislative body. Over the weeks, these Senators have been recognized by their associates, colleagues, friends and constituents. Many tributes have been offered here on the floor.

Today, I would like to express my personal gratitude not only to all 13, but to several Senators who had a particular influence on me, the committees on which I serve, and our agendas in those respective committees.

Senator HOWELL HELFIN is retiring after three terms as the honorable Senator from Alabama. In our years of working together—getting to know each other in our service to the North Atlantic Assembly—I have grown to appreciate and admire this great gentleman. He has judicial temperament, one that I imagine was carefully cultivated in the many years which prepared him for his service here in Washington.

Senator HEFLIN has a keen understanding of diplomacy and America's eminent position in the world. His dedication to the North Atlantic Assembly, our international interests, along with his service in the Senate, and to his fellow Alabamans qualify him for that honored distinction of statesman. And I feel richly rewarded for the time I've been able to spend with him.

Senator DAVID PRYOR, also retiring after three terms, is another colleague I want to salute personally. He's the other half of the fly-before-buy duo. Together we worked to create the operational and live fire testing laws for weapons. He was critical in our efforts, instrumental to our success.

Many authors and military personnel have documented the lives saved as a result of problems discovered and corrected in operational live fire tests. In other words, there are men and women today who, perhaps unknowing, owe a great deal of gratitude to Senator PRYOR and his tenacity in seeing this legislation through.

Despite many attempts to ignore and circumvent these laws by the defense buying bureaucracy, Senator PRYOR and I provided rigorous oversight, regardless of which party controlled Congress. When the Democrats were in

charge, Senator PRYOR chaired the hearings. I chaired when Republicans were in charge. Our objective was never lost, and the work moved forward. Our commitment was always to the courageous soldier in the field—the individual dependent on the weapon systems.

Another Senator with whom I've had the pleasure of working closely is SAM NUNN, one of the most honorable, fair and bipartisan leaders I've known. SAM and I have alternated between chairing and serving as ranking minority member on the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations since 1981. On many occasions, our staffs worked together on joint investigations.

We launched the first congressional investigation identifying crack cocaine as a significant drug problem. We investigated airline safety, and explored the Justice Department's handling of the Jackie Presser ghostworkers issue. Senator NUNN has been a staunch opponent of waste, fraud, and abuse, and he has gained world renown as an expert in matters of defense and foreign affairs.

Most recently, he and I launched the first investigation of Russian organized crime activities in the United States, continuing PSI's longstanding history of being Congress' primary organized crime investigator.

I am also grateful to Senator NANCY KASSEBAUM and her leadership in health care. NANCY is another one of the profoundly thoughtful Senators who serve as the catalyst for important policies and laws. She was certainly a catalyst in the effort to successfully pass the medical savings account demonstration program, as part of our effort to make health care more accessible for Americans.

Another retiring Member of the Senate, after five terms in Senator MARK HATFIELD, a man whose dedication to principle has distinguished his career in the State House as well as on Capitol Hill. Among his many legislative successes, I'm grateful for Senator HATFIELD's work on behalf of Amtrak, as well as his objective analysis and contributions to debates and initiatives through the years.

Likewise, HANK BROWN, and his rugged, no-nonsense approach in promoting a strong foreign policy and fiscal responsibility. HANK and I have served together on the North Atlantic Assembly, and we have joined efforts to strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. His eloquence and clear logic make him unusually effective and a pleasure to work with—not to mention his love for St. Bernards—another devotion we share.

I appreciate BILL COHEN, our distinguished senior Senator from Maine. Senator COHEN is a noted novelist, a poet. I've found many of his speeches brilliantly enriching, especially a speech he gave a few years ago about the changing culture around us. BILL has been a dogged proponent of cutting waste, fraud, and abuse on the Government Affairs Committee, and he has

been active in our efforts to understand and build relationships of trust with the nations of the Pacific. He will be remembered not only for his work with ASEAN, but for his efforts on behalf of NATO, and his chairing of the Munich Conference.

Finally, Mr. President, I want to recognize Senator ALAN SIMPSON, a good friend and revered colleague. There are few men who become legends in their own time, but AL is certainly one of them. His easy-going, affable manner and ready wit were equal to his majestic stature and trademark smile. There hasn't been a time when AL's opened his mouth to speak that I haven't waited in anticipation for some new sparkling gem of wisdom, a witty turn of phrase, or an outright joke.

AL taught us, as his mother taught him, that humor is the irreplaceable solace against the elements of life; hatred corrodes the container it's carried in. With his humor, he could diffuse even the most impassioned and tensely difficult moments.

It was AL who, during one very difficult period—a period of some contention on this floor—told us of the successful marriage philosophy he shares with his wonderful wife, Ann. It was a simple philosophy: "Never go to bed angry * * *" he said. "Always stay up and fight!"

During another heated moment, in the middle of the confirmation hearings on Judge Robert Bork, AL reminded us, with his western charm, the "Everyone's entitled to their own opinion, but not to their own facts."

And it was AL who taught us how to deal with the media. Once, when pressed for his church preference, he answered: "Red brick!"

Indeed, as the liberal commentator, Mark Shields, has recognized, "AL SIMPSON is a man of uncommon wisdom." With his retirement, he not only leaves behind a rich legislative legacy, and dear memories for friends, but a reputation akin to that which attends Will Rogers. I can only imagine that in the years and decades ahead, AL, like Mark Twain, Will Rogers, Winston Churchill, and other great wits, will come to inherit aphorisms and jokes that he never told. But then, those of us who know him, realize that he truly deserves such an honor.

It has been my pleasure to serve with Senators SIMPSON, COHEN, BROWN, HATFIELD, KASSEBAUM, NUNN, PRYOR, and HEFLIN—as well as with Senator SIMON, who we saluted with our bowties last week, Senator BENNETT JOHNSTON—four successful terms from Louisiana, Senator EXON, and Senator BRADLEY, who I've had the pleasure of serving with on the Finance Committee. And I appreciate Senator PELL, another fine leader who leaves a great legacy, both at home and abroad. Mr. President, I salute all those who are retiring this year. Each has lived a life in deeds, not words, and in their actions have written their legacy on tablets of love and memory.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION—REAUTHORIZATION CONFERENCE REPORT

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HUTCHISON). Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of the conference report accompanying H.R. 3539, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Conference report to accompany H.R. 3539, an act to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs for the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the conference report.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there shall be 3 hours for debate on the conference report, with the time to be equally divided between the two leaders.

Mr. STEVENS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, the Senate now is going to continue its work on the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization bill.

TRIBUTE TO ADMINISTRATOR HINSON

As we start that, I want to take a moment to pay tribute to that Agency's leader, David Hinson.

As many Members of the Senate know, Administrator Hinson will be leaving his post later this year, and he will return with his wife, Ursula, to their home in Idaho.

I just called him Administrator Hinson. That is tough for me to say because over the last years, those of us who have worked with him always called him David. He is a very approachable guy and one who we understand. He comes from the West. In my State, where aviation is very critical and more than 75 percent of our communities can be reached only by air, David has become well known. He has been to Alaska several times. He had to cancel a recent visit with our air carriers because of the tragedy of TWA Flight 800.

But he is continuing to work on solutions to our problems, particularly the problems that we are experiencing at the Juneau International Airport. Two critical departures have been revoked, and David is working with safety personnel to try to find a way to make those departures safe for travelers in and out of our capital city.

As Administrator, Mr. Hinson has set the FAA on a good course, working with a very competent assistant and associate administrator, Linda Daschle. He has been able to urge Congress to address the FAA's future funding needs, and he has worked to improve commuter airline safety and,